

Reflection on Technology Facilitator Standard II:

Planning and Designing Learning Environments and Experiences

I don't even know how to begin to discuss all the things that I have been taught to integrate into my own teaching/learning experiences in the classroom. A whole new world has opened up with possibilities that are endless. I feel as though the box has been opened. I have begun to have programs as a staple of learning in the classroom. Each student learns through it every day. We talk about it and we learn about it. It's amazing the world that has opened to them and the great ways that I can reach students that I was not able to reach before in some content areas.

After reading this chapter, I have to agree that most teachers are still stuck where I was at the beginning of this journey. I was unaware of the staggering percentages of teachers that do not integrate technology into their daily lessons. Teachers know how to turn things on and have a basic understanding of how to work devices, but they lack the application step to apply what they know and use the devices in the classroom daily. I believe this has happened because of the rapid growth of technology and the school's lack of initiative to teach teachers the real issue at hand. They need to be taught just as our children are taught. We teach them by integrating technology into their classes and requiring them to produce work using them. This shows what they know and that they can apply what they know. The same applies to teachers. Instead of typical in-service, we need to use technology in the applications and require teachers to produce evidence of what they have learned using a technological media.

I want to use the new knowledge that I have gained to show other teachers how to grow in their technology knowledge and use. The biggest hurdle I face is how to get teachers into it and how to show them that it can help them and can create a stimulating learning environment for their students. Most teachers are skeptical because it takes away from their teaching time and they have to learn one more thing to do. I plan on asking our district IT director how exactly she creates a connection to technology for these teachers and what I can do to increase motivation in them.